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Sec. McNamara Asks For Military Increase

Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara has announced that "at this time we don't contemplate calling reserves or asking for additional legislation to extend tours of duty involuntarily."

The secretary said he is asking for a manpower increase of 113,000 military and 94,000 civilians. "Not all of these personnel will be in place by the end of fiscal '66, but all of them are being provided for in the budget. Equipment, for example, for all of them is being procured," he said.

The additional strength authorization would bring military strength to 3,092,766, some 6,000 less than the Korean Conflict peak and almost 300,000 more than during the Berlin Crisis.

When the current buildup started last August, authorized strength stood at 2,639,766. An additional 340,000 was authorized, bringing the total to the present 2,979,766 figure.

Concerning the civilian increase, Secretary McNamara referred to a previously announced program to replace about 75,000 military personnel with about 58-59,000 civilians. "These increases will seem disproportionate on the civilian side. But it is just disproportionate because of this transfer of jobs," he said.

Sec Def to Ask Congress Approval Of Privately-Owned Leased Housing

Defense Sec. Robert S. McNamara said he will ask Congress to continue authorization for construction of 8,500 military family housing units that had been temporarily deferred because of urgent operational requirements in Vietnam.

"As soon as feasible," the Secretary said, "we shall push forward vigorously, as we have done during recent years, to build thousands of required new military family housing units."

At the same time Secretary McNamara announced approval of a plan to seek congressional authorization to provide 13,075 privately-owned leased housing units for military families in the U.S., almost doubling existing authority for 7,000 leased quarters.

The services now have authority to pay up to $160 a month, including utilities and maintenance and operations, for privately-owned quarters.

WELCOME ABOARD—Capt. James B. Cain (right), Commanding Officer, antisubmarine warfare carrier USS Yorktown, and VAdm. J.T. Hayward (center), greet Adm. U.S.G. Sharp, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific. Occasion was relief of Adm. Hayward as Commander, Antisubmarine Warfare Force, Pacific, by VAdm. J. L. Chew, not shown.

LBJ Urges Congress to Act Promptly on $12.7 Billion Bill

President Johnson has urged Congress to act promptly on a $12.7 billion FY66 supplemental appropriation to be used primarily for operations in Vietnam.

In a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Jan. 19, the President noted $12.3 billion of the request is for operations of U.S. forces in Vietnam and weapons, ammunitions, ports and airfields which should be available to support them if aggression continues.

"We hope aggression will end;" the President stated, "We must be prepared if it does not."

The total includes $415 million for the Agency for International Development for economic assistance to meet urgent requirements in Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and the Dominican Republic, and to replenish the general contingency fund.

The military appropriation request includes about $200 million which will be applied to military assistance for the forces of South Vietnam and other allies fighting there.

Washington Memos

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE Meritorious Civilian Service Medal was presented to Dr. James M. Bridges, former Special Assistant to Director of Defense Research and Engineering (Command and Control), Jan. 11. Dr. Bridges retired Dec. 30, 1965, after 23 years federal service.

AIR FORCE WILL hold first of two management oriented Zero Defects seminars at Lockheed Georgia Co., Marietta, Ga., Jan. 11. Second seminar scheduled for Jan. 25.

RESIDENTS OF TEXAS desiring to vote in the 1966 Primary, Runoff Primary, and/or General Elections are reminded of the annual poll tax of $1.50 State tax, and if required, 25-cents county fee, which must be paid to the county of residence tax collector postmarked by Jan. 31, arriving not later than Feb. 5. Payment of poll tax is not required to vote for a U.S. senator and representatives.

SEVERAL POLICY CHANGES concerning Army personnel oversea assignments are explained in February's edition of Army Personnel Letter. Changes were published in a November DA circular. APL furnishes a detailed interpretation.

THE 38TH CLASS of the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va., has graduated 269 students representing the United States and five allied nations—Great Britain, Canada, Australia, France and New Zealand. The staff college is operated under JCS for DOD. Officers selected by their parent services to attend the college are prepared for future assignments to joint, unified and combined commands. Two classes of five months duration each are given annually.

ADVICE TO LIEUTENANTS "on the fence" concerning an Army career, is to investigate the pay and promotion potential available through a voluntary indefinite extension or a Regular Army commission. One example is the latest Zone of Consideration for promotion to captain, which includes first lieutenants with DOR of June 30, 1965, or earlier.

"YOUR FEDERAL INCOME Tax," 1966 edition of IRS publication No. 17, is available from Supt. of Documents, Dept. T, Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. It contains 160 pages of comprehensive information helping taxpayers prepare income tax returns. Price 50 cents; Catalog No. T 22, 44:966.

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION Medal has been awarded to attack carrier Oriskany and gasoline tanker Genesee by Navy Secretary Paul H. Nitze for their RVN service. Oriskany was cited for its outstanding record-setting deployment to WestPac and Genesee was praised for "dedicated performance" and direct contribution to building an air strip.

HQMC HAS ANNOUNCED 1,081 Marine noncommissioned officer promotions for February. Ten will be promoted to sergeant major, 13 to master gunnery sergeant.

SECOND ANNUAL USAF Forensic Medicine Symposium for doctors and lawyers will be held at USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks AFB, Tex., Jan. 25-27. Symposium is sponsored by Office of the Surgeon General and Judge Advocate General, USAF, to discuss medico-legal problems.

SOLDIERS SERVING IN the Dominican Republic since April 29, 1965, for six months or more will be eligible to wear the overseas service bar after Army publishes a change to regulations. The cloth bar is gold colored and sewn horizontally on the lower right uniform sleeve. Each bar denotes six month's overseas in a "hostile" or "combat" environment. The decoration had previously been authorized for WW II, Korean Conflict, and RVN service.

MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND is flying C-141 Starlifters from Texas through Alaska to Southeast Asia, and by mid-year from East Coast bases over northern routes, to ease crowded conditions of California and mid-Pacific air routes.

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL PLAYERS and a former NFL star will visit RVN for about two weeks in late January. They are linebacker Sam Huff, Washington Redskins; quarterback John Unitas, Baltimore Colts; defensive end Willie Davis, Green Bay Packers; and Frank Gifford, former New York Giants halfback now CBS television announcer.

LEGION OF MERIT in grade of Commander presented to VAdm. Myong Soo Hahm, Chief of Naval Operations, Republic of Korea Navy, by U.S. Secretary of Navy Nitze, at Pentagon.

STUDY ON ENGLISH language training for foreign military personnel showed that Defense Language Institute (DLI), Washington, D. C., exercises technical control for this training. Primary accomplishment means, however, are in the USAF Language School, Lackland AFB, Tex. Announced relocation of both to Biggs AFB, Tex., will result in transfer of AF school's functions and resources to DLI under overall responsibility of Army Secretary Stanley R. Resor.

NAVY'S BLUE EAGLE II, C - 121 Super Constellation, has been outfitted with television equipment to begin programs in RVN. Equipment allows for simultaneous telecasts on any two of the 12 VHF channels. Plans call for telecasting U. S. forces programs over Channel 9, Vietnamese programs will be telecast over Channel 11.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Background For Commanders

Laos Sets the Record Straight

At Geneva, in 1962, 13 countries, including both North and South Vietnam and the five nuclear powers, agreed to recognize and guarantee the sovereignty, neutrality, independence, unity, and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Laos.

All agreed not to use force or the threat of force to impair the peace of Laos. They agreed not to introduce into Laos foreign troops or military personnel in any form whatsoever.

Consequently, more than 700 American, Thai and Philippine military advisers to the rightists were requested to leave Laos within 30 days. And so they did. Equally, thousands of regular troops from North Vietnam who fought along with the leftists—the Pathet Lao—were also requested to leave within the same time limit. Only 20 of them—I repeat, only 20 of them—have left Laos. Where are the 99.9 percent of those troops? These soldiers are hiding in the jungles and mountains, and will then infiltrate into South Vietnam. To divide world opinion, they created by themselves a so-called National Liberation Front of Laos, receiving orders only from Peking and Hanoi.

Frankly, my country does not need any lesson in liberation from anyone or from any country, especially from North Vietnam.

Aggression by North Vietnam

In May 1964, after the eastern part of the Plaine des Jarres had been taken by force by the North Vietnamese and rebel troops, the coalition government appealed to all co-signatories to the 1962 neutrality agreements to help it stop the aggression. The government requested aircraft and ammunition from the Soviet Union, which unfortunately refused. At the same time the government, to be really neutral, had to request the United States to take pictures of the North Vietnamese troop movements, and also had to request arms and ammunition in order to defend itself. Thereafter, it reported this to the International Control Commission (ICC).

The Royal Armed Forces captured 16 regular soldiers from North Vietnam and killed dozens of them. We have their identity papers, their march timetable, their arms and personal letters they wrote to their families.

Then the ICC, composed of India, Poland and Canada, sent a detailed report to the Soviet and British co-chairmen.

According to the statements of the prisoners themselves, they were members of the regular armed forces of North Vietnam. They were dispatched across the frontier into Laos to fight along with the rebel Pathet Lao. At the time of capture, they were found to be wearing uniforms similar to those worn by the Pathet Lao.

Since Nov. 15, 1965, four battalions of North Vietnamese regular troops have attacked Thakhek, a city almost 100 miles from the North Vietnamese frontier. With the Royal Air Force and by means of an artillery counterattack, we killed 60 of them and captured 15.

Destination: South Vietnam

During a press conference, one of the prisoners declared:

"The North Vietnamese high command has lied to me to come to Laos to fight the American imperialists, and we have fought against the Laotian Army." The prisoners revealed that the first task of these attacking units was to burn the city of Thakhek, steal the food supplies of the people, and then retreat safely along the Mekong River to South Vietnam.

We had always respected the North Vietnamese leaders and army, because we fought together to free ourselves from colonial rule. We have since found out that they are only warmongers, murderers, thieves and liars. How can we cooperate with such people, who violate the very elementary principles of religion and humanity. They denied what they had promised, they stole what belonged to our people, and they killed those whom they call friends and good neighbors.

We hope that the signatories of the Geneva Agreement on Laos which have representatives here at the United Nations will impartially condemn this shameful aggression against Laos.

Laos asks only to be left alone. The North Vietnamese troops do not have any right whatsoever to use my country as a road for infiltration to South Vietnam.

(Excerpts from a statement made to the U.N. Political Committee by the Laotian delegate to the U.N. Dec. 7, 1965.)

Other Units Redesignated When MATS Became MAC

Nearly every unit of the Military Air Transport Service (MATS) was redesignated when MATS became the Military Airlift Command (MAC) Jan. 1.

Eastern Transport Air Force was redesignated 21st Air Force; Western Transport Air Force became 22nd Air Force; Air Photographing and Charting Service became Aerospace Audio Visual Service; and Air Rescue Service was renamed Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service.

All air transport and troop carrier wings were redesignated as Military Airlift Wings and all transport and troop carrier squadrons as Military Airlift Squadrons.

Report Shows Traffic Fatalities Checked in '65

President Johnson received the 1965 report of the President's Committee for Traffic Safety, which reviewed nationwide activities related to the Highway Safety Action Program, Jan. 7.

William Randolph Hearst Jr., chairman of the committee, said report shows rate of traffic fatalities was substantially checked in 1965, after three successive years of sharp increases.

During the first eight months of 1965, toll was 1 percent above that of the same months in 1964. By comparison, the 1964 figure was 13 percent above the comparable 1963 period.

AF Establishes Quotas For E-8, E-9 Selections

Air Force supergrade promotions in April will total about 150 more than last year, but 100 fewer airmen will win chief master sergeant stripes.

Newly released quotas show 2,513 for senior master sergeant and 734 for chief. For the first time, selections will be made by a central board to put selections on a basis as fair and equitable as possible, Air Force officials said.

E-8 promotion board is scheduled to meet Feb. 14, E-9 board March 7. Promotions will be effective April 1.

PRESENTS AWARD — Under Secretary of the Army David E. McGiffert (left) presents Exceptional Civilian Service Award (Second Award) to Mr. Roy K. Davenport during a luncheon ceremony at the Pentagon. Mr. Davenport, former Deputy Under Secretary of the Army, has been reassigned as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Research.

Red Ball Express is Back

The famed Red Ball Express of World War II, which rushed supplies from invasion beaches to front lines, is rolling again.

Army's 1st Logistical Command, RVN, has its Red Ball Express delivering repair parts to front line troops within hours of receipt from the U.S.

Changes Announced for Some Primary Elections

Several changes have been announced in elections slated in Arkansas, Michigan, Minnesota and New Jersey. The Arkansas primary election will be July 26 instead of previously announced Aug. 9, and the runoff primary Aug. 9 instead of Oct. 25.

Deleted from the list of those to be nominated in Michigan's primary election, Aug. 2, are lieutenant governor, secretary of state, and attorney general. Added to Minnesota's primary election scheduled for Sept. 13 are nominations for governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, treasurer, and attorney general. The New Jersey primary election has been rescheduled for June 7, instead of April 19.

AF's Project 'Mix Fix' Affects Non-Combat Jobs

Project Mix Fix, an Air Force plan to replace military personnel with civilians, will affect military jobs in most functional areas not involved in combat and combat support.

The Air Force is scheduled to swap 20,000 for 17,000 civilian positions by the end of the year. Largest number of conversions will be in the food service area, where about 4,000 civilians will be added. Plans are complete to convert 750 officer and 8,500 airmen jobs by June 30.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Maj. Philip S. Porter, USAF, Kanto Base Command's Chief of Recreation (Tachikawa AB, Japan), selected chairman of U.S. Olympic Judo Committee. **Adm. Ulysses S. Grant Sharp, USN,** extended as Commander in Chief, Pacific, for two more years. **Brig. Gen. Keith L. Ware, USA,** (major general selectee), to replace **Maj. Gen. George V. Underwood Jr.,** USA, as Chief of Information, Feb. 1, 1966. **Brig. Gen. Lloyd B. Ramsey,** Deputy CG, U.S. Army Training Center (Engineer), Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., to replace Gen. Ware as Deputy CINFO March 1. **Maj. Gen. Lawrence S. Lightner,** Deputy Director, Legislative Liaison, Hq., USAF, promoted Jan. 1. **Brig. Gen. Hugh B. Manson,** named Commander, USAF Flight Test Center, Edwards AFB, Calif., succeeding the late Maj. Gen. Irving L. Branch.

CONTRACT AWARDS

Go Con Corp., Dallas, Tex.: $1,598,917 fixed-price contract for 4,217 large general purpose tents with covers. **(DSA)**

Eugene Luhr and Co., Massman Construction Co., and Patton-Tully Transportation Co., Columbia, Ill.: $1,986,000 fixed-priced contract for work on Mississippi River Project. **(Army)**

Pennsylvania State Univ., Ordnance Research Lab., University Park, Pa.: $8,337,584 modification to existing cost-plus fixed-price contract for continued research and development of Mark 48 torpedo. **(Navy)**

Honeywell, Inc., Hopkins, Minn.: $1,488,758 increment to an existing contract for production of aircraft ordnance. **(Air Force)**